

13. (Twice Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein at least two score-lines are formed in the major top surface and across the width of said sheet material.

14. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 13 wherein each of said score-lines extend across the entire width of said sheet material.

15. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said at least one score-line is perpendicular to the length of said sheet material.

16. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 15 wherein the depth of said at least one score-line ranges from about 5 to about 90 percent of the thickness of said sheet material.

18. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said sheet material has at least one score-line in the major bottom surface and across the width of said sheet material.

19. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said sheet material is intumescent.

20. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 13 wherein said sheet material is intumescent, said score-lines extend across the entire width of the top surface of said sheet material and perpendicular to the length of said sheet material and wherein the depth of said score-lines is about 50 percent of the thickness of said sheet material.

23. (Twice Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said pollution control element has a round shaped cross section and said sheet material has a plurality of score-lines in the top surface of said sheet material and the top surface of said sheet material faces said housing.

24. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 12 wherein said sheet material has at least one score-line in the bottom surface and across the width of said sheet material and the bottom surface faces said pollution control element.

25. (Amended) The pollution control device of claim 24 wherein the bottom surface of said sheet material has a plurality of said at least one score-line.

26. (Amended) A pollution control device comprising:

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- a housing;
- a pollution control element disposed within said housing; and
- a mounting article disposed between said pollution control element and said housing, said mounting article comprising a sheet material useful for mounting said pollution control element, said sheet material having major top and bottom surfaces, a thickness, a length and a width, said sheet material having at least one score-line in at least one of the major top and bottom surfaces of said sheet material to relieve surface tension in said sheet material, said at least one score-line extending in a direction parallel to gas flow through said pollution control element, wherein said sheet material includes a first layer suitable for receiving strips of a second layer of sheet material, said strips of a second layer of sheet material attached to said first layer in an adjacent manner to provide said at least one score-line.

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28. (Amended) A pollution control device comprising:

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- a housing;
- a pollution control element having a radius of curvature and being disposed within said housing; and

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- a mounting article disposed between said pollution control element and said housing, said mounting article comprising a sheet material useful for mounting said pollution control element, said sheet material having a major top surface facing said housing and a major bottom surface facing said pollution control element, a thickness, a length and a width, said sheet material having at least one score-line located proximate said radius of curvature and extending in a direction that is not perpendicular to gas flow through said pollution control element, said at least one score-line relieving surface tension in said sheet material that would have been

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generated by said sheet material being disposed around the radius of curvature of said pollution control element if not for said at least one score-line.

~~Please cancel claim 17, without prejudice of disclaimer.~~

~~Please add new claims 29- 37, as follows:~~

29. (New) The pollution control device of claim 28 wherein said pollution control element has an oval shaped cross section defined by a larger radius of curvature and a smaller radius of curvature, said smaller radius of curvature is smaller than said larger radius of curvature, said at least one score-line is located proximate to said smaller radius of curvature and no score-line is located proximate to said larger radius of curvature.

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30. (New) The pollution control device of claim 29 wherein the oval shaped cross section of said pollution control device is defined by two smaller radius of curvature and said at least one score-line includes at least one score-line located proximate to each of said smaller radius of curvature.

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31. (New) The pollution control device of claim 28 wherein said at least one score-line is a cut into said sheet material that is formed without removing any of said sheet material.

32. (New) The pollution control device of claim 12 where the pressure applied by said sheet material on said pollution control element is not appreciably affected by said at least one score-line.

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33. (New) The pollution control device of claim 28 where the pressure applied by said sheet material on said pollution control element is not appreciably affected by said at least one score-line.

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34. (New) A mounting article for mounting a pollution control element within a pollution control device, said mounting article comprising a sheet material useful for mounting a